

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A fixation device for directing an eye of a patient during a surgical procedure, said device comprising:
 an eye shield for covering the eye, said shield including an inside surface;
 a light source mounted to the inside surface of the eye shield; and
 an electrical circuit mounted to the shield that causes the light source to be illuminated.

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2. The device according to claim 1 wherein the light source is an LED.
3. The device according to claim 1 wherein the electrical circuit includes an electrical switch for turning the light source on.
4. The device according to claim 1 wherein the electrical circuit includes at least one battery for providing DC power to the light source.
5. The device according to claim 1 wherein the eye shield is made of a material selected from the group consisting of plastic and paper.

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6. The device according to claim 1 wherein the eye shield has a tear-drop shape.

7. The device according to claim 1 wherein the device is a disposable unit.

8. The device according to claim 1 wherein the surgical procedure is a cataracts procedure.

9. A fixation device to be secured to a patient during a surgical procedure for directing an eye of the patient during the procedure, said device comprising:

an eye shield for covering the eye, said shield including an inside surface;

an LED mounted to the inside surface of the eye shield; and

an electrical circuit mounted to the shield, said electrical circuit including a battery and a switch, said switch being activated to provide battery power to the LED to illuminate the LED during the surgical procedure.

10. The device according to claim 9 wherein the eye shield is made of a material selected from the group consisting of plastic and paper.

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11. The device according to claim 9 wherein the eye shield has a tear-drop shape.

12. The device according to claim 9 wherein the device is a disposable unit.

13. The device according to claim 9 wherein the surgical procedure is a cataracts procedure.

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14. A method for performing a surgical procedure on a patient's eye, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a fixation device, said fixation device including an eye shield having an inside surface and a light source mounted to the inside surface;

securing the fixation device to the patient's face so that the fixation device covers a fellow eye of the patient;

illuminating the light source; and

directing the patient to look at the light source.

15. The method according to claim 14 wherein the step of securing the fixation device to the patient includes taping the fixation device to the patient's face.

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16. The method according to claim 14 wherein the step of providing a fixation device includes providing a fixation device having a battery for providing DC power to the light source.

17. The method according to claim 14 wherein the step of providing a fixation device includes providing an LED light source mounted to the inside surface of the eye shield.

18. The method according to claim 14 wherein the step of providing a fixation device includes providing an eye shield made of a material selected from the group consisting of plastic and paper.

19. The method according to claim 14 wherein the step of providing a fixation device includes providing a disposable fixation device.

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